Galatians 4:1-5 “God’s Christmas Preparation” Harlan D. Betz

**1A. INTRODUCTION …** There are only 17 shopping days left till Christmas!

 We prepare for Christmas in many ways.

**2A. INSTRUCTION …**  God prepared the world for the first Christmas:

 **1B. *In the fullness of time.* Gal. 4:1-4**

 1C. God prepared the world nationally … ((Dan. 1 & 7)

#  1D. Babylon

 2D. Medo Persia

 3D. Greece

 4D. Rome

 2C. God prepared the world morally

 1D. I’d make it if I didn’t have a sinful nature:

 2D. I’d make it if I could just follow my conscience:

 3D. I’d make it if I could just follow my conscience:

 4D. I’d make it if I was governed by good men:

 5D. I’d make it if I had a special place to worship:

 6D. I’d make it if the guidelines were clearly spelled out:

 7D. I’d only make it by the grace of God!

 3C. God prepared the world prophetically. The messiah will be:

 1D. Born of a woman — Gen. 3:15

 2D. Through Abraham — Gen. 12:12; 15:5

 4D. Through Isaac — Gen. 21:12

 5D. Through Jacob — Gen. 26:4

 6D. Tribe of Judah — Gen. 49:10

 7D. Family of David — 2 Sam. 7:12

 8D. Born in city of Bethlehem — Micah 5:2

 9D. Born of a virgin — Isa. 7:14

 4C. God prepared the world individually

 1D. John the Baptist — the personal \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 2D. Joseph of David — The legal \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 3D. Mary the Virgin — The blessed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 4D. Caesar Augustus — The census \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 5D. Magi from the East — The King \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 6D. Shepherds from the fields — The news \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 7D. The Heavenly Host — The God \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 **2B. *God sent forth His Son.* Gal 4:4**

 1C. He was sent by the Father. This emphasizes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_!

 2C. He was born of a woman. This emphasizes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_!

 3C. He was born under the Law. This emphasizes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_!

 **3B. *To redeem those who were under the law.* Gal 4:5.** Why did God send His Son? 1C. That He might \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ us!

 2C. That God might \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ us!

 3C. How is that accomplished? Christ died for us (Gal. 3:13).

 **3A. IMPLICATIONS …** God’s Christmas preparation was fantastic:

1. God’s timing in history.

 2. God’s timing in my life.

 3. God’s timing in your life.